REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, a change will be made to the language of claim 1 without narrowing the scope thereof. The purpose of this Supplemental Response is to clarify the language of the claims and thus to enhance the clarity thereof.

In an Official Action dated August 29, 2003, the Examiner indicated claims 1-7 as allowed and claim 9 as being rejected. Additionally, the Examiner withdrew claims 8, 10 and 11 from consideration. In a complete Response filed on March 1, 2004, Applicants amended claims for clarity and cancelled the rejected and all the unelected claims. Thus, Applicants Response of March 1, 2004 placed the application in condition for allowance.

Additionally, Applicants noticed several language informalities and by the present Response, endeavor to correct them. These amendments do not narrow the scope of the claim but rather clarify the language thereof and are thus appropriate for entry. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of the present amendment and consideration of the present amendment together with the Response filed March 1, 2004. Applicants look forward to receiving a Notice of Allowance in due course.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

P20339.A07

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this Response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Masaru EGUCHI et al.

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